Know-How Assistance to Small Scale Industry

2954. SHRIMATI MANORAMA PANDEY:

SHRI ASHOK NATH VERMA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 15 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 20th November, 1991 and state:

(a) what are the administrative, technical. Economical financial difficulties M/s. Balmer Lawrie (India) Ltd., (Government Enterprises) are encountering in providing advance process know-how assistance to Small Sector for greases whereas under the New Industrial Policy for small sector Government have emphasised the need for the small sector to avail of the advantage of higher technological developments to open itself for international competition; and

(b) the steps Government propose to take in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) and (b) There is no proposal under consideration of Balmer Lawrie & Co. Ltd. for providing advanced technical know-how assistance to Small Sector for manufacturing greases.

However, such proposals could be considered on merits subject to the Government's guidelines and on commercially acceptable terms.

Oil Bureaucracy

2955. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of PETROLUEM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item captioned "Government moving to check Oil Bureaucracy" which appeared in the 'Times of India' dated September 17, 1991;

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto; and

(c) what steps have so far been taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) 72 blocks have been offered for oil and gas exploration by international and Indian companies. It has been decided to set up the Karnal Refinery by the Indian Oil Corporation.

Conservation of Petroleum Products

2956. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by Government during the last three years to conserve petroleum products;

(b) whether there has been any impact of these measures on their consumption; and

(c) if so, what is the reduction registered in the demand and import thereof and the foreign exchange saved as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) Besides demand management measures and increases in the pricing of petroleum products, programmes are continuing for creating mass awareness, imparting education and training to the target groups of users, and promoting adopion of measures for increasing oil use efficiency of vehicles and equipment of various types and for reducing wastages as well as wasteful use of petroleum products.

(b) Yes, Sir.